programme, (ii) Wet Land conservation programme, (iii) Scheme on Mangroves, (iv) In-situ and Ex-situ conservation of medicinal plants in the forest areas.These relate to conservation of natural resources including medicinal plants and bio-diversity.

The National Medicinal Plants Boards has sanctioned 29 projects in the North-East (Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura & Agartala) out of 145 projects for the over all development of medicinal plants sector in the region. The total amount sanctioned for North-East region for these projects by the Board during 2001 -2002 is Rs. 4.94/- crores for 1 -3 years.

Modernization of Central Government Hospitals

1847. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to modernize and upgrade the facilities in the Central Government Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (b) The upgradation/ modernization of Central Goverment Hospitals is a continuous process keeping in view the advancement in medical sciences.

(c) The likely plan expenditure to be incurred during the current financial year on the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are as under:—

Safdarjung Hospital	Rs. 37.00 Crores
Dr. RML Hospital	Rs. 17.20 Crores
LHMC & Associated Hospitals	Rs.13.90 Crores
AIIMS	Rs. 105.00 Crores

Registration of ultrasound clinics

1848. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the first ultrasound clinic registered in the country;

(b) whether there is any cut-off date for registration of ultrasound machines;

(c) till which date registration has been granted to ultrasound clinics; and

(d) the number of genetic clinics fulfilling the requirements under Schedule III, *i.e.* A, B(1), B(2)(b), B(2)(c), B(3), B(4) and C(1) of the PNDT Act, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misues) Act, 1994 came into force with effect from 1st January, 1996. Every Genetic Counseling Centre, Genetic Laboratory or Genetic Clinic engaged in counseling or conducting pre-natal diagnostic techniques has to apply for its registration under the said Act within 60 days from the date of its commencement.

Registration of bodies is a continuous process as all the bodies, old and new, engaged in counseling or conducting pre-natal diagnostic techniques have to get themselves registered under the Act.

According to reports received from the States/UT Government, 19,612 bodies have so far been registered under the Act. All these clinics are supposed to fulfil the requirements prescribed under the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 and Rules thereunder.

Supreme Court's direction on medical negligence

1849. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently directed the Medical Council of India to submit an affidavit, on the cases of medical negligence, within two weeks;

(b) whether his Ministry has taken any action on the directions of Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details of the cases of medical negligence and procedure for punishing the erring doctors;